

NEWS RELEASE

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DATE: **January 08, 2015**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Attempt Human Trafficking of 2 Year old

On Wednesday, January 7, 2014 at approximately 1938 hours, Covina Police Department officers contacted a 34 year old female in the lobby of Covina Police Station. The female reported she was shopping at Baja Ranch Market (425 S. Citrus), with her two year old son at approximately 1830 hours. A male Hispanic, approximately 45 years of age, 5'08", 200 lbs, wearing blue jeans and a brown button down shirt, approached her and her son as she was checking out. The suspect made complimentary statements to her and her son about how beautiful they were. The suspect asked the woman if she wanted to sell her son and when she told him no, the suspect continued with the compliments but they were focused solely on her son.

When the woman finished checking out she waited inside the store for the suspect to exit and leave. After several minutes, the woman walked with her son to her vehicle in the parking lot. As she reached her car, the suspect was parked next to her in a brown/champagne colored Honda Pilot. The suspect said, "Oh look, it's you! It's both of you. You're so beautiful." The suspect was sitting in the driver's seat and a second suspect, described as a male black, 50's, approximately 6'00", 215 lbs, wearing a tan slacks and long sleeve white shirt sitting in the front passenger seat.

The woman told the suspect to leave them alone and he exited his vehicle. The suspect approached her and removed a \$100.00 bill from his pocket. The suspect said, "Can I buy your son". The woman felt the suspect was going to try and kidnap her son and became so scared she could not scream or yell for help. The suspect still holding the \$100.00 bill said, "Go ahead and take it. Just take it". The second suspect, the male black tells the woman, "Just take the money". When the woman did not answer Suspect 1 said, "Just keep it, here", and dropped the \$100.00

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bill in her shopping cart. Suspect 1 got into his vehicle and drove away with Suspect 2 southbound on Citrus Ave.

Any information or questions regarding this crime, please contact the Covina Police Department Detective Bureau (626) 384-5612, the Watch Commander (626) 384-5665 or Crime Stoppers (800) 222-TIPS(8477). Refer to Covina PD case # 15-120.